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Commentaires

COMMENTS ON "CONFIGURATION AND DYNAMICS OF THE LAURENTIDE ICE SHEET DURING THE LATE WISCONSIN MAXIMUM", BY A.S. DYKE, L.A. DREDGE AND J.-S. VINCENT

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The paper by DYKE *et al.* (1982) in this journal (Vol. XXXVI, nos 1-2, p. 5-14) is an important contribution to the renewed interest in the form of the Laurentide Ice Sheet during the late glacial (Wisconsin) maximum. The paper of course takes a fresh look at the question of an ice divide in the area of southern Hudson Bay and in addition they sketch a suggested position of a late glacial calving margin. The purpose of my comment is to reaffirm the importance of the Ottawa Islands (in eastern Hudson Bay) in any interpretation of the late glacial history. The paper by ANDREWS and FALCONER (1969) was not referred to by DYKE *et al.* (1982) and yet it contains information that *must* be considered. Two facts that arose from the Ottawa Island study were:

1) *The major ice flow across the islands was from the southwest and suggests some sort of dispersal center southwest of the Ottawa Islands. Conversely the data*

might reflect a deflected flow from ice flowing off the Ungava Peninsula and being forced northward by Keewatin ice (see SHILTS, 1980).

2) The pattern of glacial striations on the Ottawa Islands showed that the split of the ice mass in Hudson Bay occurred *west* of the Ottawa Islands rather than over the islands as depicted in the DYKE *et al.* (1982) reconstruction.

One final comment — it will be counterproductive if discussions on the form of the Laurentide Ice Sheet get too heated. Most workers now agree that the ice sheet did not consist of a single dome, however, alternative scenarios culled from different lines of evidence must recognize that we are dealing with a dynamic system that *no doubt changed through time. Domes may have shifted, flow lines altered, and as someone once said: "..... we see through a glass but darkly."*